

The Band Handbook

Jeremy Ley, Director of Bands



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Band Students and Parents:

WELCOME to one of the most exciting experiences in which you can be a part – THE BAND! The ultimate goal of the band program is to provide our students with a lifelong understanding and appreciation for quality music and music making. In addition, we get to use the medium of music to teach some wonderful life lessons as part of our program here at Dutch Fork.

For new folks, this is the “band syllabus” that keeps us running smoothly and efficiently. Most questions can be answered by consulting THE BAND HANDBOOK or the band website: www.dutchforkband.com. It is our hope that the information contained in this handbook will be both INFORMATIONAL and INSPIRATIONAL. Please read every word of The Handbook so that you are well-informed. There is a separate **Signature Page** for you to return, stating that you’re familiar with the information contained in The Handbook.

Last school year was full of successes by our students. Dutch Fork continues to earn the SCBDA Outstanding Performance Award year after year. The marching band continues to be a 4A State Championship finalist, and placed 3rd in the 4A Lower State Championships. The Symphonic Winds received a Superior with Distinction at SCBDA CPA, and received an invitation to perform at the 2023 USC Band Clinic. We continue to have a strong showing at Region and All State band, as well as Solo and Ensemble.

This handbook is designed to answer any questions you might have concerning the program. **Please read all of the information, sign the Signature Page, and return it to the band office.** I am honored to be your band director and am looking forward to a great year!

Musically Yours,

Jeremy Ley
Director of Bands



Dutch Fork High School welcomes you to another exciting year of the Dutch Fork Band. There is more excitement around our program than there has been in years, and we're thrilled you have chosen to be a part of this experience. I am beaming with pride and anticipation for what our program will accomplish under the direction of Mr. Ley. His commitment to our band program is unquestioned, and his relationship with our students will help to take our program to new heights.

As you can imagine, over the next couple of months, you will work countless hours to prepare for the upcoming band season and for future performances. I want to thank you for your dedication and hard work and look forward to hearing of and witnessing your success this year.

Gerald E. Gary, Ed.D.
Principal



Why Music?

- *Music Is A Science.* It is exact, and it demands exact acoustics. A conductor's full score is a chart, a graph which indicates frequencies, intensities, volume changes, melody, and harmony all at once and with exact control of time.
- *Music Is Mathematics.* It is rhythmically based on the subdivision of time into fractions, which must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper.
- *Music Is Foreign Language.* Most of the terms are in Italian, German, or French, and the notation is certainly not English – but a highly developed kind of short-hand that uses symbols to represent ideas. The semantics of music is a most complete and universal language.
- *Music Is History.* Music usually reflects the environment and times of its creation, often representing its country of origin.
- *Music Is Physical Education.* It requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands, arms, lips, cheek, and facial muscles, in addition to extraordinary control of the diaphragm, back, stomach, and chest muscles. All of which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.
- *Music Develops Insight and Demands Research.*
- Music is all these things, but most of all, *Music Is Art.* It allows the human being to take all these dry, technically boring (but difficult) techniques and use them to create emotion. That is one thing science cannot duplicate: humanism, feeling, emotion - call it what you will.

That is why we teach music! Not because we expect you to major in music, but

- So you will be human so you will recognize beauty
- So you will have something to cling to
- So you will have more love, more compassion, more gentleness, more good



Why Is Music Education Important for Students?

- Music students scored higher on the 2009 SAT (College Board Website)
- “At Risk” students cite participation in the arts as a reason to stay in school
- A ten-year study by the President’s Committee on the Arts showed that music students tested higher on all standardized tests, regardless of socioeconomic group
- Music helps us to better understand our motives, fears, memories, and to communicate more boldly and creatively. (Levitin, This is your Brain on Music)

Why Is Music Education Important for Parents?

- 94% agree: music education is necessary for a well-rounded education (2005 Gallup Poll)
- Schools with music programs have significantly higher graduation rates (90.2% to 72.9% -MENC)
- Music Education enhances cooperative learning, instills disciplined work habits, and correlates with gains in standardized tests.
- Studies of kindergarten children showed the more music skills, the great their reading skills and development (Anvari, et.al.)

Take Note: Music Study Enhances Memory and IQ

A Study by researchers at McMaster University in Canada indicated that young children who received a year of musical training showed brain changes and superior memory when compared with children who did not receive the instruction. That the children taking music lessons improved more than the others in non-musical abilities such as literacy, verbal memory, visuospatial processing, mathematics, and IQ.

Source: Takako Fujioka, Bernhard Ross, Ryusuke Kakigi, Christo Pantev, Laurel J Trainor. "Brain, a Journal of Neurology." Oxford University Press, 2006 Oct;129(Pt 10):2593-608. doi: 10.1093/brain/awl247. Epub 2006 Sep 7.

Why Is Music Education Important for the Community?

- The “back-to-basics curricula,” while it has merit, ignores the most urgent void in our present system: absence of self-discipline. The arts, requiring self-discipline, may be more “basic” to our nation’s survival than traditional credit courses. We are spending 20 times more on science than on the arts, and the result so far is worldwide intellectual embarrassment. (Paul Harvey, syndicated radio host)
- The arts are an economic plus—second only to aerospace as our most lucrative national export. (Michael Greene, National Academy of Arts and Sciences)



Attendance Policy

To be early, is to be on time

To be on time, is to be late

To be late, is to be left!

The nature of band requires that students be present at **ALL** rehearsals. ***A student is expected to arrive 15 minutes prior to a rehearsal.*** A student missing from the section or the marching band drill not only affects their individual performance, but those around them as well. It also creates a safety concern when students fall behind in learning drill for marching band. The policies stated below are to ensure the quality and safety of the Dutch Fork Band and its members.

Excused/Unexcused Absences

The following are considered ***Excused Absences***:

- Illness with a Doctor's or Parent Note
- Death in the Family
- Religious Holiday
- Pre-Arranged School Conflict. A school conflict may include but not limited to: club, varsity sport, or academic assistance. This system is subject to modification by the director.

The following are examples of, but not limited to ***Unexcused Absences***:

- Work/Job
- Driver's Ed
- Babysitting
- Homework/Projects

One unexcused absence will result in the student being placed on probation status and loss of their marching privilege for one performance. One unexcused absence will also result in a lowering of the student's participation grade as stated in the grading policy. Students may release themselves of probation status by making up the time missed, and showing that the missed work has been made up.



For **All** absences, the following procedures must be followed by all students and parents:

- Director must be notified by email or phone call ***at least 24 hours in advance.***
- For illness, a parent note or doctor's excuse must be submitted.
- Although cleared by the school office, absences from a band activity that same day must be cleared with the director as well. Please call or email the director.
- In extreme cases, a phone message may be left on the band answering machine with a follow up personal call.
- Follow-up is the sole responsibility of the student.

Conflicts with Band

Conflicts between band and other activities or events are the responsibility of the student. Rehearsal and performance schedules are given out in advance so that arrangements can be made. Students should not become involved with activities that may directly conflict with band activities. When outside activities create hardships concerning band, the student will need to consult with the director about possible alternatives. Students should have a calendar (or Google Calendar on their phone) and be aware of all band dates well ahead of schedule. It is the policy of the band to assist students when conflicts occur within the scope of the band policy. Students are reminded that band is a very demanding activity, and that involvement in outside activities should be limited to those that are compatible with the band schedule. **All conflicts with regard to performances must be worked out in favor of the student's responsibility to band. Work is not an excuse for missing any band activity.**



DUTIES OF THE BAND MEMBER

- Be on time to all rehearsals and performances. EARLY IS ON TIME – ON TIME IS LATE.
- Upon entering the rehearsal setting, acquire your instrument and go directly to your seat.
- When the director or staff member steps on the podium or asks for your attention, all talking should cease.
- Come to rehearsal with a GOOD ATTITUDE.
- There is no excess playing (i.e. horsing around on the instrument); only appropriate warm-up material.
- Make a real effort to improve on a daily basis, and establish a good practice routine.
- At the end of rehearsal, put all materials in their proper place.
- Maintain a strong academic standing in all course work.
- Become responsible, and assume responsibility, for your own actions. Admit when you are wrong.
- Have a proper respect for yourself, your instrument, materials, your peers, staff members, and directors
- Read and play music with insight – have musical expectations.

THE IMPORTANCE OF ATTITUDE

The greatest single factor that will determine the success of any individual or organization is attitude. The kind of person that you are is an individual choice, and how we feel about something is one of the few actual independent choices that we have in life. It takes intense dedication to reach goals. Students should learn to discipline themselves to practicing daily on fundamentals. The “right attitude” must be present along with sincerity, concentration, and dedication as the foundation. Such an attitude makes an artistic performance inevitable, and is the difference between a winning organization and a mediocre group. You who are in band are a favored few. The band can do much for you. Make the most of it in every rehearsal and performance.

THE IMPORTANCE OF DISCIPLINE

Because of the nature of the organization, band discipline must be strict. Band students and parents must believe in the ideals, principles, and philosophy of the organization. Each member must always be aware of good behavior, and think for himself/herself locally and nationally. Any misconduct casts a bad light on the school, community, and band program. **Any member who discredits the organization by his/her conduct or actions in band, in another class, at school, or on a trip, shall be subject to dismissal from the band program, or may lose a privilege within the program.** Misconduct includes but is not limited to: ISS, OSS, and OSS with recommendation for expulsion. Loss of a privilege includes but is not limited to: performances, competitions, and field trips. **This decision will be solely at the director’s discretion.**



PARENTS' RESPONSIBILITY TO THE BAND

It is the responsibility of every parent and guardian to see that the policies outlined in the HANDBOOK are followed, and that the signature form is signed and returned. This states that you UNDERSTAND the policies as set within, and that any questions are to be addressed with the band director by making an appointment. Each parent IS responsible for the attendance of their child at all band functions. It is the responsibility of each parent to see that their child practices his/her instrument daily. The hands of the directors are tied without the help of parents.

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

When a “band question” arises, it is important that you get factual information before discussing it with others. We do more harm to ourselves, and the band family, when we talk about things that contain one or more “falsehoods” but consider them facts. If questions arise, it is important to remember this axiom: If it is a performance issue or anything dealing with the band proper, contact a director. If it is a fundraising question or anything dealing with parent volunteer issues, talk with the booster club president.

Here are a few other things parents can do to help:

- Show an interest in the music study of your child.
- Take woodwind instruments to the shop once a year for maintenance.
- Stay current on your “fair-share.”
- Help the student keep a DAILY RECORD of practicing and come up with a reward system for DAILY practice.
- Find a quiet place where he/she can practice without interruption.
- Keep the instrument in good repair.
- Keep at least three reeds in the case.
- If your child is a brass player, ask them when the last they gave their horn a bath.
- Purchase a metronome and tuner!
- Be extra-careful with school-owned instruments. Repair costs are high!
- Teach your child to be prepared, and on time to, each rehearsal or lesson.
- Provide private instruction.
- Attend all important band activities, such as concerts, contests, booster meetings, and games.
- Buy your child a personal planner for marking important dates.
- Refer to the Handbook often.
- Notify the teacher if the student is to be absent for rehearsals or lessons.
- If a student is absent, make sure that their folder gets to school (if they share it with someone).
- Visit rehearsals occasionally.
- Turn in fundraising money on time.



Rehearsal Expectations

Marching Band

Students should be in their attendance block before rehearsal begins. Students not in the attendance block at the beginning of rehearsal may receive a 10-point deduction from their marching band rehearsal grade. For all rehearsals, students must have:

- Proper school attire
- Tennis shoes, no sandals or open back shoes.
- Drill book (provided by the band)
- 1/2 Gallon Water Jug filled with Water. These may be purchased at major retailers such as Walmart or Target.
- Sunscreen
- Music
- Lyre/Flip Folder
- Instrument
- Pencil
- Chalk (provided by the band)

Failure to bring proper materials to a marching band rehearsal will result in a deduction of 10 points from a student's marching band grade (***This includes not bringing water to rehearsal!***)

Marching Band Music Pass-Offs

To pass-off assigned material, the player must successfully demonstrate to the director(s) or designated student assistant, his/her ability to perform the music. Every note and rhythm must be perfect, though standards will be adjusted to fit the level of the musician. Pass-offs will be assigned at the beginning of the season with due dates for each assignment. Students that pass-off their music will receive points for that pass-off assignment. Students that do not pass-off their music by the specified date may receive a 0 for that assignment. Pass-offs can be retaken as many times as necessary until the end of the 1st Quarter. **Students who do not pass off the necessary materials by the specified dates may be not be able to perform at the next football game halftime, or competition, at the discretion of the director.** Show music must be passed-off to a section leader.



Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Symphonic Winds, and Jazz Ensemble

For the concert season, student must be seated, with all materials needed, 3 minutes after the tardy bell. After 3 minutes, the director will step on the podium to begin rehearsal. All conversations must cease at this point.

Students must have the following items for rehearsal:

- A sharpened pencil
- Instrument
- One appropriate mute for your instrument
- Your music
- 1/2 or 1 inch folder with page protectors for music
- At least three reeds (clarinets and saxophones)
- Water bottles for trombonist
- At least two reeds (oboes and bassoons) and water canisters for soaking

Percussion

Students should enter the room and check the board for the instruments and music needed for class that day. Students will then set up required percussion instruments in a timely manner. Students will have 4 minutes after the tardy bell to gather materials needed for class. After 4 minutes, the director will step on the podium to begin rehearsal. All conversations must cease at this point.

Students must have the following materials for class:

- A sharpened pencil
- Band binder containing music and handouts given out in class.
- A stick bag labeled with student's name containing the following:
 - Snare drum sticks (Vic Firth SD-1 or similar concert band sticks) – **labeled with the student's name.**
 - Yarn Mallets – **labeled with the student's name.**
 - Rubber Mallets – **labeled with the student's name.**

Restroom Breaks

Students should visit the restroom between classes, not during instructional time. Unless there is a medical reason of which we need to be made aware, students should not ask to go to the restroom during class.



STUDENTS' RESPONSIBILITY TO THE BAND

You have a great deal of responsibility as a member of this organization. It is essential that certain expectations be met, in coordination with the privileges, rewards, and duties of the band program. These responsibilities are:

TO OURSELVES

YOU have the primary responsibility of developing your own abilities. The benefits of a good instrument and private instruction can never be underestimated. What you put into it is what you will get out of it. The director is ALWAYS available for your guidance and encouragement – just ask!

TO THE SCHOOL

Dutch Fork High School and the Lexington-Richland 5 School District provides us with the resources for rehearsals, performances, and some equipment. The Band Booster Club also provides a support network, both financially and philosophically. We have the responsibility to provide the best possible service to our community.

TO MUSIC

Music has always been a part of our culture. We must take what we have and use it for the betterment of that culture. No one expects virtuoso musicians, only your very best! The great composer Gustav Mahler once said that only 10% of a piece of music is on the page. If that is the case, then we as musicians have the duty of creating and producing the other 90%. The joy of music is not in everything that is apparent. It must be discovered and created.

TO EACH OTHER

We must always do what is best for the WELFARE of the group. There can be no selfish acts solely for the benefit of the individual. Respect each other. If there are conflicts, find a way to resolve them. Never insult another band member's integrity. The word "band" means that we are banded together and that there is no separation. Sometimes, *the needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few.*

Talking Policy

There will be no tolerance for talking during a rehearsal. With over 70 students receiving instruction at one time, abiding by the policy becomes essential for the students' and band's success. Our time is very valuable and cannot be sacrificed redirecting disruptive behavior. Excessive talking during a rehearsal will result in the MBI process as stated in the Student Handbook.



General Rules and Procedures

- Students are to adhere to all polices in the DFHS Student Handbook and Discipline Code.
- Students are expected to treat every member, director, staff member, and clinician with the highest level of respect and courtesy and act in a supportive and positive spirit when partaking in activities associated with the DFHS Band.
- Students are to refrain from any negative or nonverbal action that reflects poorly on the DFHS band program. This applies to the internet and social media as well. Remember, the reflections and attitudes of one person affect the entire group's image within the community.
- Cell phones are not permitted during the school day, rehearsals, or performances. Cell phones will be confiscated and kept until the conclusion of rehearsal and/or handed over to an administrator, should the violation repeat itself.
- **Shoes and socks must be worn at all times.**
- **Chewing gum is not permitted during a rehearsal or in the band room.**
- A band member must respect his/her uniform and wear it properly at all times.
- **Food and drink are not permitted in the band room.**
- ***Littering will not be tolerated in the band room. Students are expected to maintain a clean environment in facilities and during travel and "leave it better then you left it."***
- **No hats or sunglasses inside the building.**
- The Band Room is not an activity center and therefore, outdoor activities should be kept outdoors.
- Any degrading verbiage, profanity, obscene gestures, or any negative action (including, but not limited to hazing or harassment) will not be tolerated, and will be cause for student to be dismissed from a rehearsal, performance or the band program.
- Be in your seat, warmed up, and ready to begin on time.
- Respect authority and others, including their personal property.
- A band member will wear no jewelry while in uniform; civilian clothes must be tasteful. Only watches will be permitted with the summer uniform.
- Drinking, smoking, and drugs are STRICTLY PROHIBITED. *All District policies regarding such are in force during any band activity.*
- Students are required to remain with the band after games and will be dismissed as a group.
- Young adults shall not damage property or equipment. Any vandalism to instruments or the room will be paid for by the perpetrator.
- Fundraising materials will be collected by the Dutch Fork Band Boosters. All money will be placed in the lockbox located outside of the band office.
- Original music will be housed in the music library. It is the student's responsibility to make sure that music gets to class and originals are not taken from the band room. Perpetual problems with not having music will result in an appropriate consequence.
- Students may practice in the band room before school, after school, and during Fox Focus, only if director(s) are present. Students must ask to use practice rooms. They are first come, first served. Students may lose this privilege at the discretion of the directors.
- Students are not allowed in the music library.



BAND TRAVELING

- Students must follow all rules dictated by the bus driver.
- **If a conversation can be heard in the front of the bus, it is TOO LOUD!**
- There will be no hanging out, or talking out, of bus windows.
- Bluetooth Speakers or noise making devices are not to be used on the bus. Use of devices may result in confiscation by the director, staff member or adult chaperone. Students may use headphones for listening to music, per District policy
- Please lower the volume level considerably when crossing railroad tracks, entering towns, or stadiums. This is for your safety, is courteous to the bus driver, and an act of class!
- Please keep the bus clean; pick up after yourselves and always thank the chaperones and driver!

HOTEL SITUATIONS

- Parents and students will be responsible for paying any unexpected incurred charges.
- There will be no one of the opposite sex in your room, unless accompanied by a chaperone, per District policy.
- Please refrain from playing instruments in the room.
- All school rules will be enforced on trips.
- All students should realize that any personal desires or uniqueness may have to be put aside for the duration of the trip in order to facilitate large group control and management.
- No one is to leave the hotel alone. Any student found leaving the premises without permission will have a severe consequence.
- Profanity is not a part of our organization! Make sure your language is not offensive.



MARCHING BAND

CAMP

Held during the last full week in July and the first week in August. Pre-camp starts with rookies and student leaders; everyone else is added by midweek. Full camp is from 8AM - 8PM and is taught by the Dutch Fork director(s), camp staff, and student leadership. Camp is required of all students participating in marching band. Approximately seven weeks of normal rehearsal time is crammed into camp, so attendance is a must, and required! Parent volunteers will be available to help out with whatever needs that may arise. Camp will end at the conclusion of the exhibition on the final day.

PRACTICE

Students are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances. If there is a situation that will prevent this, **contact must be made with the director beforehand**. After-school rehearsals will be on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM until September 16th, and then from 4:15 PM -6:45 PM through the rest of the season. Additional rehearsals on contest days are on the calendar. **If a student is absent from school on the day of an after-school rehearsal, someone must contact the Director at the band office.**

ALTERNATES

One of the most important members of the marching band is the alternate. A student may be placed as an alternate in the marching band for the following reasons:

- Late registration to the marching band. Students that submit marching band forms after the written deadline may not be able to receive a drill spot in the marching band show due to drill writing schedules.
- Financial status with the Dutch Fork Band Booster Club (**See Financial Obligations**)

Alternates will participate in all marching band practices and rehearsals and will still be graded on attendance and all marching band assignments. Alternates will not be allowed to participate in performances at home football games, away football games, competitions, and other marching band events deemed appropriate by the band director. Students that are alternates due to their financial status can have their alternate status revoked by communication with the booster club and through the signing and fulfillment of the Dutch Fork Band Boosters Payment Plan Contract (**See Financial Obligations**).

FOOTBALL GAMES

- Report time for all games will be announced on Thursday prior to the game.
- Students should wear the full uniform. It is ALL or NOTHING.
- Band members must be immediately ready to play when the director or drum major asks. Pay attention to drum majors and sections leaders for visual cues and stands tunes.
- For home games, students will be dismissed following the announcements in the band room. **For away games, students may ride home with PARENTS ONLY. A note or email must be sent to Mr. Ley prior to leaving for the away game. Parents must meet with the director at dismissal time with their child.**
- **When marching to and from the stadium, the band will remain at ATTENTION. When you have class IT SHOWS – when you don't, IT SHOUTS!**
- Only uniformed band members are allowed in the band section.



- All members are to remain in their “section.” Any stands “cheers” will not be played unless rehearsed and approved by the director.
- There will be no playing of other individual’s instruments or random on one’s instrument. Everyone plays together, at once, all the time.
- Cell phones must not be used at any time during the game. Attempted use will result in the confiscation of the device.
- There will be no eating or drinking in the stands. The band will have the third quarter to visit the Snack Shack and must be back in their seats for the downbeat at the beginning of the fourth quarter.
- If a student must leave the band section, another student must accompany him/her and both must have permission from the director.
- No visitors are allowed in the band area. If a parent needs to contact a student, they must come to the front and ask the director first. No alumni or other students may sit with the band at any point during the game.
- Be supportive, attentive and silent during other band’s performances. Avoid negative comments or verbal/visual criticism. PEOPLE REALLY NOTICE!

AWAY GAMES

There are a few away football games that the band has been asked to attend. For away games, we will use a pep band. **All students in the marching band are required to sign up for at least one away game.** Away games will be graded under performance grades.

COMPETITIONS

Competitions are special events where we get to perform for a sophisticated audience and very competent judges. WE ARE THERE TO DO OUR BEST – NOT TO WIN!! If we do our best, then everything will take care of itself. Specific information is given prior to competitions as to directions, departure and anticipated return time. All parents are encouraged to attend competitions and support the band. Students will call from the bus twenty minutes prior to arrival back to Dutch Fork High School. **Parents, PLEASE COME IMMEDIATELY when called.** We will clap and show appreciation for all performers. It takes an exceptional performer to see the greatness in others. It takes nothing to criticize.

Grades for Competitions

Students that do not have a **C average or above in all their classes** will not be allowed to perform with the band on competition days. These students are still expected to be at these competitions regardless of grades, and will still receive a performance grade for that performance. **Students who have below a C average are expected to go to academic assistance for help in their classes.** Students that use academic assistance in order to bring grades up above a C average will be excused from marching rehearsal.

Students must let the director know prior to beginning of rehearsal that they are going to academic assistance.



Uniform Policies

As members of the Dutch Fork Band, we represent the Dutch Fork Band program, Dutch Fork High School, and Lexington-Richland 5. We must remember that we are an ensemble, a team, and a public figure. The policies below are to ensure that all members of the Dutch Fork Band act and appear uniformly with professionalism, class, and respect at all times.

Uniform Care and Inspection

It is imperative that we are all dressed appropriately and look “uniform,” like one ensemble. Prior to departure for a performance, students must pass a uniform inspection. In order to perform, students must be in complete uniform for both concert and marching performances. Students who do not pass a uniform inspection may be subject to dismissal from that performance and a deduction from a student’s performance grade at the discretion of the director.

Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and Jazz Ensemble Uniform

Students should arrive to all evening concerts and Concert Performance Assessment dressed in their concert uniform. The uniform for Concert Band and Symphonic Band members includes the following items:

- Black dress pants. Ladies may wear a black skirt that is at the appropriate length.
- Black Belt
- Black dress shirt. Must have a collar for gentlemen and must be tucked in. Ladies also have the option to wear a black dress shirt.
- Tall black Socks (no other colors or ankle socks)
- Black or brown dress shoes (no tennis shoes)
- Black tie or black bowtie (optional for gentlemen)

Symphonic Winds

The uniform for the Symphonic Winds will consist of black tuxedo for gentlemen, and long black dress for ladies. This uniform will be checked out to the student to use during the school year. Students will be fitted for their concert uniform during class. This will be worn for all evening concerts, Concert Performance Assessment, Graduation, as well as any additional performances.



Summer Uniform

The summer uniform will be worn during Home and Away Football games as well as parades and exhibitions. The summer uniform includes the following items:

- Khaki Shorts (must be appropriate length and follow dress code as stated in the student handbook)
- Brown or Black Belt
- Predominately White Tennis Shoes
- Summer Uniform Shirt (Provided by the band). Shirts must be tucked in at all times.

Marching Uniform

Students should arrive to all marching band competition days and Saturday rehearsals in their current year show shirt, athletic shorts (provided by the band), tall black socks, tennis shoes. The marching uniform is provided by the band.

The marching band uniform includes the following items:

- Black Marching Shoes (polished and shined)
- Tall Blacks (no other colors or ankle socks)
- Current year show T-shirt. Other shirts will not be accepted.
- Jacket
- Bibbers (at required length)
- Shako
- Black gloves. Woodwind players must have cut gloves prior to putting on uniform
- **No jewelry, earrings, watches, wristbands including but not limited to those on hands, ears, neck, lips, or skin.**
- All hair must be away from the face and off the neck. For girls, hair must be up and tucked into a tight bun with hair away from the face and pinned on the top or back, so it is away from the neckline. For boys, all hair must be away from the neckline and face. Those with longer hair need to have it up in a tight bun pinned back on the top and back.
- Gauntlets (to be worn at all times unless instructed by the director)



2023-2024 MARCHING BAND UNIFORM INFORMATION

Band uniforms are quite expensive - the parts with their approximate prices are listed below. Each band member will have his or her own unique number marked on all uniform parts and these will be kept at school. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO SEE THAT YOU HAVE EVERYTHING IN YOUR GARMENT BAG AFTER EACH USE. Band members will be charged for any lost parts at the end of the season.

Gloves may be kept in the garment bag, but NO shoes, socks or other clothing may be left in the bags. Any socks found will be thrown out, and any shoes or other clothes found in garment bags will be put out in the band room. **PUT YOUR NAME IN YOUR SHOES AS SOON AS YOU GET THEM AND YOU'RE SURE THEY FIT.** Every year band members 'lose' shoes because they are not labeled and someone else takes them.

If you lose gauntlets or some other accessory, **please tell us right away** so we can start looking for them – they usually show up in someone else's garment bag. Remember – each item has YOUR number on it. If you lose some uniform part and take someone else's, we'll know immediately. We will take care of cleaning the uniforms periodically. **Normal wear and tear is expected but if uniform parts are damaged through abuse or neglect, or if any items are lost and don't turn up, the band member's account will be charged the replacement cost.**

For each game and competition, you must bring your band t-shirt – clean and unwrinkled – as well as your marching shoes and black socks. We will check uniform bags before all away trips. **IF THE BAND MEMBER DOES NOT HAVE SHOES, SOCKS, GLOVES, AND THE T-SHIRT HE OR SHE WILL HAVE TO ARRANGE FOR THEM TO BE DELIVERED TO SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY SO THAT THERE ARE NO DELAYS LOADING THE UNIFORM TRAILER.** We **DO NOT** have extra socks or shoes to lend. If you forget yours, it is your responsibility to rectify the situation.

At the end of **EVERY** game and competition, members will turn in their uniforms, neatly hung and ready for transport and storage. Plan your schedule to allow for this few extra minutes. We will check uniforms as quickly as possible, but **YOU** can make the whole process go faster by doing the job right the first time. Uniform volunteers will be happy to show you the proper way to hang up your uniform if you need help. Each member is responsible for turning in his or her own uniform personally. **Band members are not allowed to turn in any uniform but their own. Every person is responsible for his or her own uniform.**

Coat	\$115	Black bibbers	\$60
Gauntlets	\$35	Garment bag	\$20
Hat Box	\$10	Hat	\$30
		Plume	\$17
GRAND TOTAL \$287.00			



Band Course Overview

The Dutch Fork Band program offers students a wide variety of performance opportunities. Students will be placed in a concert ensemble based on the following criteria:

- Audition that will be held in the spring
- Participation in the marching band for the following school year (Symphonic Winds only)
- Recommendation from director (Rising 9th graders only)

Auditions in the spring will consist of a selected etude provided by the director. The audition will also count as the student's playing exam portion of the student's final exam grade.

Band Curriculum in Brief:

Symphonic Winds

The Symphonic Winds is the primary performing organization in the Dutch Fork Band program during the winter and spring. Membership is by audition only. Students in Symphonic Winds are required to participate in the Marching Band with exception of students involved in a fall sport. The Symphonic Winds will be comprised of students with the performing ability necessary to play Grade V/VI Literature.

Symphonic Band

The Symphonic Band is comprised of students with the performing ability necessary to perform Grade III/IV music. Membership is by audition only.

Concert Band

The Concert Band is comprised of students with the performing ability necessary to perform Grade III music. Membership is by audition only.

Marching Band

The Marching Band is open to all students in the Dutch Fork Band program. Students must be in a concert class (Symphonic Winds, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Percussive Arts) in order to participate in Marching Band. This group rehearses daily after school, during the first part of the year. The group performs at football games, pep rallies, parades, and several band competitions. There is a required band camp that is mandatory for all students in the marching band.

Jazz Ensemble

Jazz Ensemble is comprised of students looking to perform various styles including but not limited to Swing, Latin, Rock, and Funk. Membership is open to all students regardless of instrument or grade. Students must be signed up for a Concert class (Symphonic Winds, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Percussive Arts) in order to participate in Jazz Ensemble with the expectation of String Bass, Guitar, and Piano students.



Percussive Arts

This group consists of our percussion students. Students in this class will learn advanced snare and mallet technique as well as perform in various percussion ensembles. Students in Percussive Arts will be assigned to a concert ensemble for Winter and Spring Concerts, as well as Concert Performance Assessment. Students involved in Marching Band will have the opportunity to participate in the drumline or front ensemble.

Guard

Students who are interested in dance, choreography, and movement may choose to audition for our marching band Color Guard. Students are also eligible to audition for our Winter Guard program. Auditions are held in April for marching band Color Guard and November for Winter Guard.

Other Performance Opportunities

Summer Instruction

There are many nationally known summer institutes for instrumental instruction. Some of the best are Brevard Music Center, Interlochen Arts Camp, Aspen Summer Music Program, Sewanee and Tanglewood. There are also regional summer music camps at the USC Summer Conservatory Program, Charleston Southern University, and Furman.

Region and All-State Band

Members of the band program are eligible to audition for the South Carolina All-State and Region Bands. Please consult the SCBDA dates under the section "Important Dates"

Solo and Ensemble

Members of the band program are eligible to participate in the Solo and Ensemble Festival. Members can perform as an individual, an ensemble, or both. Please consult the SCBDA dates under the section "Important Dates".



USE OF THE BAND FACILITY

The use of band facilities before, after, and during school is a privilege. Students who abuse the facility will be disciplined accordingly. Any abuse or damage will be considered vandalism. The following rules and procedures are in place:

- **NO OUTSIDE STUDENTS WILL BE PERMITTED IN THE BANDROOM except for business with the director.**
- There will be NO HORSEPLAY in and around the band room.
- All percussion and guard equipment is off limits to anyone not specifically designated to use them.
- NO STORING OF PERSONAL BELONGINGS IN BAND LOCKERS except for tennis shoes and additional clothes during marching season. Dutch Fork High School provides a free cubby to every student. Band cubbies will be checked weekly to ensure that they are being used to house a student's instrument and music folder, only.
- NO STUDENT SHOULD BE IN THE BAND OFFICE WITHOUT A STAFF MEMBER PRESENT or without receiving prior approval to do work-related activities for the directors.
- LUNCH MUST BE EATEN IN THE CAFETERIA. No food or drinks in the band room.
- STUDENTS ARE NOT TO USE THE BAND COMPUTER without specific permission from the director. This includes director laptops.
- **Practice rooms are to be used for personal practice or lessons by an instructor.** Rooms may be used with permission from the director. Keep the room neat with appropriate music stands in place.
- The Music Library is private and is to be used only by the student music librarian. This is the only student who may go into the library unless otherwise stated by the directors.
- The band office is a place of business. Students must knock before entering, even if the door is open. Telephone use should be kept to a minimum and is NOT FOR PERSONAL USE. ASK PERMISSION BEFORE USING. THE BAND COPY MACHINE IS FOR BAND BUSINESS ONLY, not personal use.
- Students should not teach private lessons in the band facility without a director present.
- **The outside door to the band room will remain locked during school hours. Students must enter the building from the front entrance of the school.**
- **NO STUDENT SHOULD BE IN THE BAND ROOM BEFORE 7:45 AM OR AFTER 5 PM WITHOUT A DIRECTOR OR STAFF MEMBER PRESENT WITH THEM.**



Important Dates

All dates are subject to change. Changes to the schedule will be made available as soon as they are available.

Concert Band and Symphonic Band

After School Rehearsal – Wednesday December 13th
Winter Concert – Thursday December 14th
After School Rehearsal – Monday, March 4th
Pre-Festival Concert – Tuesday March 5th
After School Rehearsal – Thursday, March 14th
Concert Performance Assessment – March 19th – 22nd
After School Rehearsal – Wednesday May 15th
Spring Concert – Thursday May 16th

Symphonic Winds

After School Rehearsal – Wednesday November 1st
After School Rehearsal – Wednesday November 8th
After School Rehearsal – Wednesday November 15th
After School Rehearsal – Wednesday November 29th
After School Rehearsal – Wednesday, December 6th
After School Rehearsal – Wednesday December 13th
Winter Concert – Thursday, December 14th
After School Rehearsal – Wednesday January 10th
Symphonic Camp – Wednesday, January 17th 4:00 PM -7:00 PM
Pre-SCMEA Concert – Thursday, January 18th
After School Rehearsal – Wednesday January 24th
After School Rehearsal -Wednesday January 31st
After School Rehearsal – Wednesday February 7th
SCMEA Performance – Friday, February 9th at the USC Alumni Center at 12:00 PM
Pre-Festival Concert – Tuesday March 5th
After School Rehearsal – Tuesday, March 19th
Concert Performance Assessment – March 19th – 22nd
After School Rehearsal – Wednesday May 15th
Spring Concert – Thursday May 16th

Percussive Arts

Percussion Ensemble Concert – Tuesday, May 7th

Percussion students are expected to perform with the Concert Band/Symphonic Band and



Symphonic Winds.

All after school rehearsals and concert are required and graded as stated in the grading policy in the syllabus. All After school rehearsals will be from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM. All concerts begin at 7:00 PM in the auditorium. Call time for students for all concerts is 6:30 PM.

SCBDA Events

Region Band Auditions- January 20th at North Augusta HS

All-State Auditions- January 27th at Lexington HS

All-State Jazz Auditions- January 27th at Lexington HS

Region Band Clinic- February 23rd-24th at Lexington HS

All State Jazz Band Clinic- February 29th-March 2nd at Newberry
College

Jazz Performance Assessment – March 1st or 2nd at Newberry
College

All State Band Clinic- March 15th – 17th at Furman University

Solo and Ensemble April 19th – 20th at Dutch Fork High School



Marching Band Calendar of Events

This Calendar is based on all available information as of July 2023. Revisions are possible and will be sent out as soon as they are available

July		
7/24	New Members, Percussion, Color Guard, Leaders	8 AM - 6 PM
7/25	New Members, Percussion, Color Guard, Leaders	8 AM - 6 PM
7/26 - 7/28	Band Camp Week 1 (All members) (Bring lunch)	8 AM - 6 PM
August		
7/31 - 8/3	Band Camp Week 2 (Bring lunch)	8 AM - 6 PM
8/4	Last Band Camp Day (Senior Day)	8 AM - 6 PM
8/7	Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
8/8	Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
8/10	Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
8/14	Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
8/15	Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
8/17	Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
8/18	Rehearsal in the Stadium	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
8/21	Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
8/22	Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
8/24	Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
8/25	Football	Home Game Against Spartanburg HS
8/28	Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM



8/29	Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
8/31	Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
September		
9/1	Football	Home Game Against Hough HS
9/4	Labor Day	No Rehearsal
9/5	Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
9/7	Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
9/8	Football	Home Game Against Stratford HS
9/11	Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
9/12	Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
9/14	Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
9/15	Football	Home Game Against North Augusta HS
9/16	Rehearsal in the Stadium and D5 Marching Exhibition	8 AM - 8 PM
Marching Band rehearsals will change to 4:15 PM - 6:45 PM from here		
9/18	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
9/19	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
9/21	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
9/22	Football	Home Game Against Weddington HS
9/23	Mini Camp	1 PM – 8 PM
9/25	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
9/26	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
9/28	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
9/29	Rehearsal in the Stadium	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM



9/30	Competition	White Knoll Silver Showcase(All Day Event)
October		
10/2	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
10/3	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
10/5	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
10/6	Rehearsal in the Stadium	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
10/7	Competition	River Bluff Swamp Classic(All Day Event)
10/9	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
10/10	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
10/11	Weather Make-up Rehearsal 1 (Only used if we miss a weekday rehearsal due to school closure)	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
10/12	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
10/13	Rehearsal in the Stadium	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
10/14	Competition	Bands Of America(All Day Event)
10/16	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
10/17	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
10/18	Weather Make-up Rehearsal 2 (Only used if we miss a weekday rehearsal due to school closure)	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
10/19	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
10/20	Football	Home Game Against River Bluff HS
10/21	Competition	4A Lower State (All Day Event)
10/23	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
10/24	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
10/25	Weather Make-up Rehearsal 3 (Only used if we miss a weekday rehearsal due to school closure)	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM



10/26	Rehearsal	4:15 PM - 6:45 PM
10/27	Football	Home Game Against Lexington HS
10/28	Competition	4A State Finals (All Day Event)
November		
11/3	Football	Playoff Game 1
11/10	Football	Playoff Game 2
11/17	Football	Playoff Game 3
11/24	Football	Playoff Game 4(Required for students that are in town for Thanksgiving)
12/2	Football	Football State Championship (All Day Event)
Home Football Playoff games are <u>required</u> as part of Quarter 2 Grades.		

Marching Band Schedule Reminders

Do **not** take the SAT on 10/7. Do **not** take the ACT on 10/21.

Appointments scheduled during rehearsals and performances are considered **unexcused** unless pre-approved by the Band Director.

All rehearsals and performances are **MANDATORY** unless stated otherwise on the schedule. All rehearsals and performances are **graded.**

Students must be in the band room **15 minutes** before the beginning of a rehearsal or performance.



Recordings

An instrumentalist cannot duplicate a characteristic sound on their instrument without an appropriate model to emulate. Below are suggestions of artists for each instrument. Most recordings can be found on major streaming platforms.

Flute	Jean-Pierre Rampal, Amy Porter, Carol Wincenc
Clarinet	Harold Wright, Larry Combs, Jon Manasse
Saxophone	Eugene Rousseau, Joseph Luloff, Steven Mauk, Don Sinta
Oboe	Joseph Robinson, John Mack, Ray Still
Bassoon	Bubonic Bassoon Quartet, Christopher Millard, David McGill
Trumpet	Phil Smith, Chris Martin, Tom Hooten, Adolph Herseth
Horn	Dale Clevenger, Dennis Brain, Phil Myers
Trombone	Joseph Alessi, Christian Lindberg, Charlie Vernon, James Markey (Bass Trombone)
Euphonium	Brian Bowman, Roger Behrend, Steven Mead
Tuba	Arnold Jacobs, Sam Pilafian, Gene Pokorny, Patrick Sheridan
Mallets	Dave Samuels, Gary Burton, Evelyn Glennie

Method Books

Flute	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Altes 26 Selected Studies Art and Practice of Modern Flute Technique – Kincaid Eck Method / Practical Studies / Tone Development
Clarinet	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Klose Celebrated Method for Clarinet Rose: 40 Studies for Clarinet, Book I Melodious and Progressive Studies – Hite
Saxophone	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Universal Method for Sax – DeVille Gatti: 35 Melodious and Technical Exercises
Oboe	50 Classical Studies for the Oboe - Joppig Rubank Advanced Method Andraud Practical and Progressive Method Barrett Oboe Method
Bassoon	Rubank Intermediate Method



	Rubank Advanced Method Weissenborn Practical Method for Bassoon
Trumpet	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Arban Complete Conservatory Method Herbert L. Clark Technical Studies S Concone – Lyrical Studies for Horn or Trumpet
French Horn	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Kopprasch – Sixty Selected Studies for Horn (Vol. 1 & 2) Concone – Lyrical Studies for Horn or Trumpet Pottag – Orchestral Excerpts for Horn
Trombone Euphonium	Remington Warm-up Studies Rubank Advanced Method Rochut Melodious Etudes Book I and II Arban Method for Trombone / Euphonium Schlossberg Daily Drills Clarke Method for Trombone / Euphonium
Tuba	Rubank Intermediate Method Rubank Advanced Method Arbans Complete Method for Tuba

Practicing

As with any activity, you get out of it what you put into it. Band will not be rewarding unless you practice! There are many values in the study of music as a discipline that transfer to other areas of life. Although this will not immediately happen, persistent practice will lead to enthusiastic, driven practice. Remember: “Perfect Practice makes Perfect!” Here is a suggested plan of study:

- Pick a set time each day
- Have a set place to practice
- Stretch and do breathing exercises prior to warm-up
- Use our daily warm-up & think “tone”
- Play some form of scales at every practice session
- Rest as much as you play (Practice for 10 minutes, rest for 10 minutes). Set a timer on your phone to help you keep track.
- Work on technique (articulations, accents, etc.)
- Practice sight-reading
- Be musical and use the tuner for **part (not all)** of your practice session
- Increase your dynamic range (work pianissimo to fortissimo) & Increase your endurance (15 minutes of FULL TONE playing)
- Increase your range (highest note with a good tone)
- Use a metronome for the **ENTIRE** portion of your practice session



Suggested Practice Outline

Fundamentals

Everyone

Long Tones Up and Down
Whole Tone Scale for two octave range

Woodwinds

Long Tones on every note of the instrument
High and low register studies
The Chromatic Scale
All Twelve Major Scales and Arpeggios
Dynamic Exercises (Cresc. / Dim., Dim / Cresc, Quarter Note / Quarter Rest)
Various articulation studies

Brass

Attack Pattern
Long Tones on the Mouthpiece
Four Scales with Arpeggios in Contrasting Styles (Marcato, Legato, Staccato, Slurred)
Lip Slurs
Lip Bends
Dynamic Exercises (Cresc. / Dim., Dim / Cresc, Quarter Note / Quarter Rest)
Five-Step Articulation Exercise

Music Literature

Etude Books
Orchestral Excerpts
Band Music
Music for other ensemble (Ex: Youth Phil, Region or All-State music, etc.)
Private Lesson Material



Suggested Instrument and Mouthpiece Upgrades

Flute	Altus Azumi, Haynes Amadeus, Miyazawa, Muramatsu
Clarinet	Buffet R-13, Vandoren 5RVLyre, M13, M15, Rovner, Optimum, Bay, Vandoren V12
Saxophone	Selmer Mark VI, Yamaha Custom EX, Selmer Paris Super Action Series II or III, Selmer Paris Jubilee, Selmer Paris Reference, Selmer C*, Rovner Dark, Optimum, Bay, BG Metal Traditional, Vandoren Blue Box
Oboe	Loree or Fox 400
Bassoon	Fox Renard 220 or 222
Trumpet	Bach Stradivarius or Yamaha Xeno, Bach 3C or 1 1/2 C
Horn	Any Geyer Copy or Holton 179, Schilke 29 or 30
Trombone	Bach 42B, BO or Edwards, Bach 5G or 4G, Shilke 51 or 51D
Euphonium	Shilke 51D
Tuba	Miraphone 191 or 187, Conn Helleberg, Bach 18, Perantucci, Laskey, Giddings, Webster



DUTCH FORK HIGH SCHOOL BAND BOOSTERS

2023-2024

www.dutchforkband.com

Purpose: To raise money and coordinate parent/volunteer activities for the support of the students and staff of the Dutch Fork band program.

Executive Board:

President	Rob Townshend	rob.townshend@eastlakeonline.com
Vice President	Mike Teraoka	mteraoka@gmail.com
Secretary	Michelle Patterson	michellej62147@gmail.com
Treasurer	Rachael Gunter	rachgunt@gmail.com

If interested in helping out please contact anyone on the Executive Board. The DF Band cannot function without your support. Join us!!

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Each band student is assessed a dollar amount determined by the budgeted needs of the band for that year versus the number of band and guard members. The student earns credit towards this assessment by selling items during the various fundraising activities, which are held during the year. **If the student does not earn enough credits to meet his/her fundraising obligation during the fall fundraising activity, he/she is responsible to pay or continue fundraising for the remaining balance. Invoices will be sent out in monthly increments, commensurate with the schedule set forth by the Executive Committee.**

The "Fair Share" assessment for the 2023-2024 School year is \$575 for full members (\$500 + \$75 for concert band classes). Colorguard marching "Fair Share" is \$500. The amount is \$75 for band students not participating in Marching Band.

***Recommendation:** We recommend that you fundraise the entire amount so that you feel a sense of "ownership," and that you attempt to carryover a balance to the following year – it is your choice, however. Please note that this assessment does not pay for extra band trips. It is the desire of the band director to take a music related spring trip every other year.*

At times the financial obligation may be heavy, but no member will be denied the opportunities of our organization due to financial difficulties. Please talk with us if you have financial issues!

Students that have an outstanding balance of \$250 or more in their "Fair Share" account, have not completed the Dutch Fork Band Boosters Payment form, and have not participated in fundraising activities will automatically be placed as an Alternate for the marching band season. Alternate status can be revoked through the signing and fulfillment of the Dutch Fork Band Boosters Payment. Please contact a booster board member to receive a copy.



The following items ARE included in the “Fair Share” amount: All honor band audition fees and guest clinicians. The “Fair Share” amount for Marching Band will cover all fees outlined in the marching band commitment form.

Payments may be made by check, money order, PayPal or by having an equivalent credit in your account from fundraising sources (e.g. Patron Forms, Candle Sales, Fruit Sales, etc.) **Please no cash!**

Checks should be made payable to **Dutch Fork HS Band Boosters or (DFBB)** and can be deposited in the silver box in the band room or mailed to:

Dutch Fork High School Band Boosters
PO Box 2145
Irmo, SC 29063

Please write your student's name and the purpose of the payment on every payment sent.

Questions can be addressed to DFBB Treasurer, Cheri Alford, at cherialford@sc.rr.com

Instrument Rental

Students who play tuba, baritone, french horn, oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet, tenor sax or baritone sax may rent a school instrument for the school year. A \$50 rental fee is due prior to having the instrument checked out for their use. Please make checks for rental fees payable to **DFHS**, not the booster club. A signed instrument rental contract should also be returned prior to check out. School instruments are always expected to be treated with the utmost care and respect. Any student who is mistreating or misusing an instrument will lose the use of the instrument and the rental fee will not be refunded. Any student who damages an instrument through misuse or neglect will be responsible for paying the repair cost for the instrument.

Students who play an instrument not listed above and are unable to provide their own instrument should have their parent contact the director. We have a limited number of other instruments that we can rent on an as needed basis. The rental fee and contract must be paid and signed for these instruments as well.